ARE THE AEROSOLS ON URANUS AND NEPTUNE COMPOSED OF METHANE PHOTOPOLYMERS?

M. Podolak*, L. Giver, and D. Goorvitch
NASA/Ames Research Center

We have used the measured optical properties of photochemically produced aerosols in an adding-doubling radiative transfer code to match various points in the spectra of Uranus and Neptune. We show how well these points are fit by different assumptions regarding the size and distribution of these aerosols in the Uranus and Neptune atmospheres. The consistency of these derived distributions with those expected from computations of the sedimentation rate of such aerosols is discussed.

PRECEDING PAGE BLANK NOT FILMED

^{*}Permanent address: Dept. of Geophysics and Planetary Sciences, Tel Aviv University, Ramat Aviv, Israel